

County of Los Angeles Fire Department

Storm Watch!!



CAPTAIN MARK SAVAGE,
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FIRE CHIEF P. MICHAEL FREEMAN
1320 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

STORM SAFETY GUIDELINES

FOR RESIDENTS LIVING IN FLOOD PRONE AREAS

- **Obtain sandbags ahead of time!** Sandbags and instructional materials for their use are available at most County of Los Angeles Fire Department Fire Stations.
- Fill sandbags one-half full with sand or soil, fold top of sandbag down and rest bag on its folded top. Place in areas where needed. **NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF WATER AND DEBRIS FLOWS!**
Note: sandbags are for small flow protection (**up to two feet only**), and if improperly placed could cause needless damage to your neighbors' property.
- Monitor your radio and television news closely for information concerning weather conditions and flooding in your area.
- Have an emergency plan that all family members understand. Know how to contact loved ones if you are not able to get to your home because of flood-related incidents.
- Have enough water and food on hand to supply your family for at least a 72-hour period. Also, remember to include a radio and flashlight with fresh batteries in your emergency kit for use if necessary.
- Be aware that debris basins can overflow. Be familiar with the area in which you live and have alternate escape routes if asked to evacuate your home.
- Be aware when down canyon of mountainous terrain. It can rain in the mountains but not where you are and you can be subjected to a sudden (**within seconds**) mudflow.

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Our Vision The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be an exemplary organization acclaimed for our national reputation, our regional strength, and our hometown attentiveness as we provide fire protection and life safety services.

Core Values

INTEGRITY ♦ TEAMWORK ♦ CARING ♦ COURAGE ♦ COMMITMENT ♦ COMMUNITY

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FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE OUT DURING THE STORM

- * **STAY AWAY FROM FLOOD CONTROL CHANNELS**, catch basins, canyons and natural waterways which are susceptible to flooding during periods of heavy rain.
- * DO NOT ATTEMPT to cross flooded areas and never enter moving water.
- * If flooding traps you in your car, stay with it. If necessary, wait on top of your car for assistance.
- * If you become isolated, seek the highest ground available and wait for help.
- * If you see someone who has been swept into moving water DO NOT ENTER THE WATER AND ATTEMPT A RESCUE. Immediately call 911 for trained emergency rescue personnel and if possible, throw them some type of floatation device.
- * Know how to shut off all utilities if necessary. Remember water and electricity do not mix.

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department has taken special measures to effectively manage any potential situations which may arise as a result of the coming storm. These preparations, along with a heightened level of awareness and preparation on the part of the public, will help to prevent unnecessary injury and property loss due to flood-caused occurrences.

**Contact: (800) 980-4990; Department of Public Works
(323) 881-2413; L. A. County Fire Department Public Information Office**

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